

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. § 121 into 16 groups as set forth in the Restriction Requirement.

The Examiner requests that one of the groups of claims be elected for examination. Although the Restriction Requirement is traversed for the reasons set forth below, Applicants elect the claim of Group VI, claim 16 using the parkin binding polypeptide synaptotagmin XI, for examination.

The Restriction Requirement is traversed with respect to the division of claim 16 of Group VI into two additional groups, Groups V and VII. While the claim of Groups V, VI and VII are patentably distinct, it is submitted that a thorough search of the claims of either group will likely reveal art relevant to the examination of the claims of the other group. This is further indicated by the classification of the claim of Groups V, VI and VII in the same class (class 435). In particular, Groups V, VI and VII have been classified in the same class and subclass (class 435, subclass 7.1). Thus, a search of the claim of Group VI will, of necessity, reveal information relevant to the examination of the claim of Groups V and VII and, therefore, division of claim 16 into these three groups would result in duplicative searches. Therefore, examination of the claim of Group VI with the claim of Groups V and VII together should not be an undue burden on the Examiner.

Applicants elect the claim of Group VI, claim 16 using synaptogamin XI as the parkin interacting polypeptide, for examination. Applicants respectfully request that the Restriction Requirement be reconsidered and that the claim of Group VI be examined with the claim of Groups V and VII. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent if there are any questions.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502624 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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